

Ask the Chief of the Anna Police: A weekly column allowing readers access to useful information about law enforcement issues in the Anna area.

This column is the personal opinion of Kenny Jenks and is based on his 29+ years of policing experience. It is not necessarily the official opinion of the City of Anna or the Anna Police Department. If you wish to Email, include your name and address in the correspondence. Your information will be edited before sending it to print.

Hello Readers,

I receive between 75-100 Emails each week from persons who would like to converse about the activities of the police in Anna and surrounding areas. I can't respond to or print all of them, but I do read them!

Jerry from West Crossing writes: ***Dear Chief Jenks, I was driving through Louisiana over the holidays and I noticed signs along the highway that said something about moving wrecked vehicles from the lanes of traffic. I gather that to mean that when someone is involved in a traffic accident they should get off of the main lanes of traffic and wait for police to come. Why doesn't Texas have a law like this? It seems to me that traffic jams could be avoided if we did this in Texas. What do you say about this?***

Texas does have a very similar law and has for many, many years. For some reason, Texas does not put signs up on the highways.

We all know that someone involved in an accident must immediately stop at the scene without obstructing traffic "more than necessary." And, drivers must remain at the scene until they meet the duty to give their driver information and render any necessary aid (Transportation Code 550.023).

But, section 550.022, (b) says, "If an accident occurs on a main lane, ramp, shoulder, median, or adjacent area of a freeway in a metropolitan area and each vehicle involved can be normally and safely driven, each operator shall move the operator's vehicle as soon as possible to a designated accident investigation site, if available, a location on the frontage road, the nearest suitable cross street, or other suitable location." Further, that section makes it a Class C Misdemeanor not to move the vehicles out of the way (the Police Officer's discretion would apply).

McKinney is a "metropolitan" of which we are a part. God forbid, but if you are involved in a traffic collision, keep his law in mind, and maybe traffic can keep moving. Great Email Jerry!

Reminder: Outdoor Storm Sirens Tested (weather permitting)
First Wednesday of the month @ 12 noon.

***Phone numbers: Dial 911 in an emergency.** To have a police officer sent to you in a non-emergency, call 972-547-5350. During normal business hours, the APD number is 972-924-2848.

If you have a question or comment, please email: kjenks@annatexas.gov